## **Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director**

Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street, Room 103 Sitka, AK 99833



### Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

CONTACT: Aaron Dupuis Sitka Area Management Biologist aaron.dupuis@alaska.gov (907) 747-6688

# **Advisory Announcement**

For Immediate Release: April 13, 2022

#### DEEP INLET TERMINAL HARVEST AREA FISHERIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The following information details the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA) Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area (THA) common property fisheries open waters and fishing schedules for the 2022 season.

The Deep Inlet THA is scheduled to open beginning June 1, 2022. NSRAA is projecting a total run of 20,000 Chinook 97,000 coho, and 1,814,000 chum salmon to the Medvejie Hatchery and Deep Inlet THA in 2022. This season, 122,500 chum salmon are needed for broodstock, and NSRAA does not anticipate cost recovery operations in the Deep Inlet THA. A portion of the Deep Inlet THA may be closed in late August to facilitate broodstock collection at Medvejie Hatchery.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries during its March 2022 meeting passed a regulation that set the time ratio for drift gillnet openings to purse seine openings at 1:1.

Unless modified by subsequent advisory announcement, salmon may be taken in the Deep Inlet THA from Wednesday, June 1 through Tuesday, September 20, 2022, as follows:

#### **Purse Seine**

- From June 1 through August 13, the purse seine fishery will be open from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday, Thursday, and Friday of each week.
- From August 14 through September 20, the purse seine fishery will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, Thursday, and Friday of each week.

#### **Drift Gillnet**

- From June 1 through August 13, the drift gillnet fishery will be open from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of each week.
- From August 14 through September 20, the drift gillnet fishery will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of each week.

#### Troll

- From June 1 through September 20, the troll fishery will be open from 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., Saturday of each week and during those periods the net fisheries are closed.
- Additionally, From June 1 through June 18 only, the troll fishery will be open continuously within the boundaries of the Deep Inlet THA west of 135°20.75′ W long.

Trollers are reminded that all fish retained within the boundaries of the Deep Inlet THA listed below must be reported as being harvested in statistical area 113-38.

The Deep Inlet THA is described as follows:

Deep Inlet THA: Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 56°59.35′ N lat, 135°22.63′ W long, to the westernmost tip of Long Island at 56°59.95′ N lat, 135°21.92′ W long, to the easternmost tip of Long Island at 56°59.95′ N lat, 135°20.36′ W long, to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island at 57°00.08′ N lat, 135°20.01′ W long, to the westernmost tip of Error Island at 57°00.53′ N lat, 135°19.50′ W long, to the westernmost tip of Berry Island at 57°00.27′ N lat, 135°18.51′ W long, to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group at 57°00.14′ N lat, 135°18.27′ W long, to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group at 57°00.07′ N lat, 135°17.93′ W long, to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 57°00.30′ N lat, 135°17.67′ W long, to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57°00.08′ N lat, 135°16.78′ W long, and then to a point on the Baranof Island Shore at 56°59.93′ N lat, 135°16.53′ W long with the following restrictions:

Sandy Cove: all waters south of 56°59.05′ N lat will be closed.

The Deep Inlet THA west of 135°20.75′ W long will be closed to purse seine and drift gillnet gear from June 1 through June 18.

By emergency order issued under 5 AAC 33.376 (b)(4), drift gillnet fishermen fishing in the Deep Inlet THA will be required to fish with a minimum mesh size of 6 inches through June 18 to reduce the harvest of wild sockeye salmon returning to Silver Bay.

By emergency order issued under 5 AAC 39.265, harvesters participating in purse seine and drift gillnet fisheries in the Deep Inlet THA are required to retain and utilize all salmon harvested. This action is being taken in order to promote full utilization of salmon, to prevent waste of salmon, to determine harvest patterns of incidentally harvested coho and sockeye salmon, and to enable the department and NSRAA to have full and accurate reporting of returns. This requires that all sockeye and coho salmon retained for personal use and not sold to be reported on fish tickets. Fishermen are advised that if they have fish on board from other fishing areas, they should keep them separate for reporting and sampling purposes.

<u>Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions for the Deep Inlet THA</u>: Purse seine and drift gillnet fishermen must retain all Chinook salmon harvested in the Deep Inlet THA. Chinook salmon of any size harvested by both purse seine and drift gillnet fishermen may be sold. Troll fishermen may only retain and sell Chinook salmon greater than 28 inches.

To reduce conflicts with private landowners, NSRAA is requesting that all fishing vessels and tenders not anchor, use high-intensity lights, or tender fish near Berry Island within the Deep Inlet THA; additionally, NSRAA requests that vessels use no-wake speeds when entering Deep Inlet via Silver Point. Additional information and a chart of preferred anchorage areas is available from the NSRAA office or online at <a href="https://www.nsraa.org/">https://www.nsraa.org/</a>.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1E0122.

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220